Message Text

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TAGS: OEXC, GR, ELAB

SUBJECT: FY78 IVP GRANTEE NOMINATIONS

REF: A) 77 STATE 251975 B) 77 ATHENS 9401

1. THE EMBASSY NOMINATES THE THREE INDIVIDUALS LISTED BELOW AS ADDITIONAL FY78 GRANTEES. THESE ARE OUR FY78 PRINCIPAL AND TWO ALTERNATE NOMINEES FROM THE LABOR FIELD. ALL THREE ARE YOUNG, OCCUPY KEY POSITIONS WITHIN THE LABOR MOVEMENT AND MAY WELL TAKE ON MORE IMPORTANT ROLES IN THE FUTURE. THE PRINCIPAL CANDIDATE, ANAGNOSTIDIS, HAD BEEN NOMINATED AND APPROVED PER REFTEL A FOR AN FY78 IV GRANT BUT WAS FORCED TO WITHDRAW BECAUSE OF UNFORESEEN PROFESSIONAL DEMANDS. NDI CLEARANCES HAVE BEEN OBTAINED ON ALL THREE.

2. PRINCIPAL CANDIDATE: OMIROS ANAGNOSTIDIS - DIRECTOR OF FOREIGN RELATIONS, GENERAL CONFEDERATION OF GREEK WORKERS (GSEE). SEE REFTEL B FOR BIOGRAPHIC DATA

--- ALTERNATE A: CIMON POUTOUS - PRESIDENT, PAN HELLENIC AIR TRANSPORATION TRADE UNION. FORTY-SIX YEARS OLD, POUTOUS IS THE FOUNDER OF HIS UNION AND HAS BEEN ITS ONLY PRESIDENT EXCEPT FOR SEVERAL YEARS DURING THE JUNTA PERIOD WHEN HE WAS REMOVED FROM OFFICE. ALTHOUGH HIS UNION IS NOT AFFILIATED WITH THE GSEE, HE IS RESPECTED BY THE GSEE LEADERSHIP AND HAS READY ACCESS TO MINISTER OF LABOR LASKARIS. HE WAS THE ONLY GREEK LABOR LEADER INVITED TO THE DECEMBER 1977 CONGRESS OF THE SPANISH TRANSPORTATION UNCLASSIFIED

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WORKERS (UGT). POUTOUS TRAVELS TO THE US FREQUENTLY AS AN OLYMPIC AIRLINES CABIN CREW MEMBER. HE SPEAKS EXCELLENT ENGLISH. --- ALTERNATE B: ANDREAS CHIOTIS, PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL PRIVATE EMPLOYEES' FEDERATION, MEMBER OF THE GSEE ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD. FORTY-FIVE YEARS OLD, CHIOTIS HAS A LONG HISTORY IN THE LABOR MOVEMENT INTERRUPTED ONLY DURING THE JUNTA PERIOD. HE LEADS AN EIGHT-MEMBER CONSERVATIVE FACTION ON THE 35-MEMBER

GSEE ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD. THE UNION REPRESENTING SOME 1400 GREEK WORKERS AT U.S. MILITARY INSTALLATIONS IN GREECE IS AFFILIATED WITH CHIOTIS' FEDERATION. HE SPEAKS NO ENGLISH.

3. PROGRAM SUGGESTIONS. ANAGNOSTIDIS WOULD PREFER TO USE HIS GRANT SOMETIME THIS FALL. (ETA FORTHCOMING IN FOLLOWUP CABLE). HE IS THE GSEE'S CHIEF ADVISOR ON INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS AND ON TRAINING PROGRAMS. WE SUGGEST THAT HIS CONTACTS WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, THE AFL-CIO AND OTHER UNION ORGANIZATIONS BE FOCUSED ON BOTH OF THESE AREAS. HE IS ALSO CLOSELY ASSOCIATED WITH THE INTERNATIONAL METAL WORKERS' FEDERATION AND WOULD BE TECHNICALLY MOST KNOWLEDGEABLE IN CONTACTS WITH ORGANIZATIONS IN THE METAL WORKING INDUSTRY.

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